



P.B. 5818 - Patentaan 2
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Zeichen/Ref/Réf HJE/2655630	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n° 99303347.1-1243/
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA	

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits the partial European search report under Rule 46(1) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application.

Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the following:

The Search Division informs the applicant that if the European search report is also to cover inventions other than the invention first mentioned in the claims, a further search fee must be paid for each of these inventions, within **ONE MONTH** after notification of this communication.

Note to users of the automatic debiting procedure:

Unless the EPO receives prior instructions to the contrary, the search fee(s) will be debited on the last day of the period for payment. For further details see the Arrangements for the automatic debiting procedure, Supplement to OJ EPO 06/1994.

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to the present communication.

☐ The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the provisions of the European Patent Convention to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of some of the claims.

Claims searched completely:

Claims searched incompletely:

Claims not searched:

Reason for the limitation of the search:

☒ Additional copy (copies) of the documents cited in the European search report.

REGISTERED LETTER

Entered Br:	15	7	2000
Due:	5	8	2000
Bring Up:	10	26	2000



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP 0 661 726 A (CANON K.K.) 5 July 1995 (1995-07-05) * Abstract * * column 1, line 6 - line 12 * * column 1, line 38 - line 56; figure 23 * * column 5, line 1 - line 42 * * column 10, line 3 - column 15, line 26; figures 1-3 * ---	1-8, 19, 23, 24, 28, 35, 38, 39, 41-44	G09G3/22
X	EP 0 688 035 A (CANON K.K.) 20 December 1995 (1995-12-20) * Abstract * * page 2, line 18 - line 35; figure 1 * * page 6, line 35 - page 7, line 3 * * page 20, line 43 - page 22, line 47; figure 22 * * page 24, line 15 - line 31 * --- -/--	1-5, 7, 8	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) G09G H01J
LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:</p> <p>see sheet B</p> <p>The present partial European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims.</p>			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 6 June 2000	Examiner Corsi, F
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		<p>I : theory or principle underlying the invention</p> <p>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date</p> <p>D : document cited in the application</p> <p>U : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>	
<p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone</p> <p>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category</p> <p>A : technological background</p> <p>O : non-written disclosure</p> <p>P : intermediate document</p>			



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
A	EP 0 604 930 A (CANON K.K.) 6 July 1994 (1994-07-06) * Abstract * * page 2, line 46 - page 3, line 28; figures 1-3 * * page 4, line 47 - line 53 * * page 6, line 11 - page 7, line 7 * * page 12, line 18 - line 24; figures 22,23 * -----	6	
A	EP 0 725 420 A (CANON K.K.) 7 August 1996 (1996-08-07) * Abstract * * column 1, line 5 - line 34; figures 1,2,12,13 * * column 3, line 24 - column 4, line 40 * * column 7, line 41 - column 9, line 35 * * column 13, line 55 - column 14, line 29 * * column 22, line 28 - column 23, line 37 * -----	9	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-9,19,23,24,28,35,38,39,41-44

Image display apparatus controlled in accordance with a detected current flowing therein, possibly in a panel spacer

2. Claims: 10-13

Image display apparatus controlled in accordance with a detected current flowing outside the image display area, possibly in a sensing electron emitting device.

3. Claims: 14-17,30-32

Image display apparatus controlled in accordance with a detected potential of the display panel.

4. Claim : 18

Image display panel apparatus with electron source, controlled in dependence on its state, detected while no electron is emitted by the source.

5. Claims: 20,21

Image display panel apparatus controlled in accordance with a detected discharge within the panel.

6. Claim : 22

Image display panel apparatus controlled in accordance with a detected power consumption in the display panel.

7. Claims: 25-27

Image display apparatus controlled in accordance with a detected display state, with memory for storing details about detected abnormalities information.

8. Claim : 29

Image display apparatus with prompting of a user to control such apparatus in accordance with a detected display state.



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

9. Claims: 33,34

Image display apparatus whose degree of vacuum is controlled in accordance with a detected display state.

10. Claims: 36,37

Image display apparatus where a display control operation is selected from a plurality of control operations in accordance with a detected display state.

11. Claim : 40

Image display apparatus with a panel having high degree of vacuum.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 30 3347

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

06-06-2000

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